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#14/RESPONSE

PATENT

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Christine Sherwood

Signature

Applicant : Sven Blum, et al.
Application No. : 09/381,573
Filed : September 17, 1999
Title : DEVICE FOR CUTTING ANY WIDTH OF
WOOD OR OTHER MATERIALS

Grp./Div. : 3724
Examiner : Kim Tran

Docket No. : 35763/DBP/M521

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Post Office Box 7068
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068
August 24, 2001

Commissioner:

This is in response to the Office action mailed April 24, 2001. Claims 1-22 are pending in the application.

On page 2 of the Office action, claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. According to the Examiner, it is unclear how the corresponding guide spindles are driven. In particular, the specification states that the two guide spindles 7a, 7b are coupled in a driving housing by means of a belt gearing so that only one of the two guide spindles 7a, 7b is to be driven through the relevant stud attachment 9a, 9b. From this description, the Examiner contends that it is unclear what drives the stud attachments.

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Applicant refers the Examiner to page 4, lines 34-35 of the substitute specification, wherein it states that the transport movement is to be applied to the relevant stud attachments "manually or motorized by means of a suitable tool." The specification then continues with several possibilities for driving the stud attachments. Accordingly, it is believed that the specification fully enables how the stud attachments are driven.

On page 2 of the Office action, the Examiner further states that it is unclear how the stud attachments operate in conjunction with the belt gearing to drive the guide spindles. This operation, however, is described in more detail at page 4, line 19 through page 5, line 9 of the substitute specification. In particular, at page 4, lines 20-27 of the substitute specification, the following is described:

"The transport movement preferably corresponds to a rotational movement about the relevant longitudinal axis and the transport movement can be synchronized by means of gearing between the two spindles. Through the synchronized transport movement of the guide spindles in the same or opposite directions it is possible to reduce the risk of canting (tilting) and/or jamming of the support bodies on the drive shaft. In one variation of the invention this gearing is designed as belt gearing. The invention also includes variations wherein the coupling of the transport movement is achieved by other gearing, e.g. gearwheel or chain gearing."

In view of the above, it is believed that the specification is fully enabling with respect to "how the corresponding guide spindles are driven." Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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